

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-163 (canceled).

164. (currently amended) A method for obtaining tissue information representative of a given tissue type, comprising the steps of:

- (A) obtaining tissue specimens for a plurality of tissue types from a subset of a population of subjects with shared characteristics,
 - (B) imaging each of the tissue specimens,
 - (C) determining for each tissue type from the imaging in (B) a distribution of values for each of cell density, matrix density and blood vessel density,
 - (D) calculating average indices for each of the distribution of values in (C);
- and
- (E) calculating dispersion indices for each of the average indices in (D),

wherein the number of tissue specimens in (A) includes a sufficient number of specimens such that the indices correspond to a statistically significant representation of those indices for the population as a ~~whole~~, whole.

165. (previously presented) The method of claim 164, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal tissue.

166. (previously presented) The method of claim 164, wherein the tissue specimens comprise abnormal tissue.

167. (previously presented) The method of claim 164, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal and abnormal tissue of the same tissue type, and wherein in the determination of distribution of values and corresponding indices, data from normal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for normal tissue and data from abnormal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for abnormal tissue.

168. (previously presented) The method of claim 164, wherein the tissue types comprise skin.

169. (previously presented) The method of claim 164, wherein the tissue types comprise liver.

170. (previously presented) The method of claim 164, wherein the tissue types comprise kidney.

171. (previously presented) The method of claim 164, wherein the tissue types comprise muscle.

172. (previously presented) The method of claim 164, wherein the tissue types comprise brain.

173. (previously presented) The method of claim 164, wherein the tissue types comprise intestine.

174. (previously presented) A method for obtaining tissue information representative of a given tissue type, comprising the steps of:

- (A) obtaining tissue specimens for a plurality of tissue types from a subset of a population of subjects with shared characteristics,
- (B) assaying each of the tissue specimens,
- (C) determining for each tissue type from the assaying in (B) a distribution of values for each of location, type and amount of DNA,

(D) calculating average indices for each of the distribution of values in (C);
and

(E) calculating dispersion indices for each of the average indices in (D),

wherein the number of tissue specimens in (A) includes a sufficient number of specimens such that the indices correspond to a statistically significant representation of those indices for the population as a whole.

175. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal tissue.

176. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue specimens comprise abnormal tissue.

177. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal and abnormal tissue of the same tissue type, and wherein in the determination of distribution of values and corresponding indices, data from normal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for normal tissue and data from abnormal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for abnormal tissue.

178. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue types comprise skin.

179. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue types comprise liver.

180. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue types comprise kidney.

181. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue types comprise muscle.

182. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue types comprise brain.

183. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue types comprise intestine.

184. (previously presented) The method of claim 174, wherein the tissue types comprise plant tissue.

185. (previously presented) A method for obtaining tissue information representative of a given tissue type, comprising the steps of:

(A) obtaining tissue specimens for a plurality of tissue types from a subset of a population of subjects with shared characteristics,

(B) assaying each of the tissue specimens,

(C) determining for each tissue type from the assaying in (B) a distribution of values for each of location, type and amount of mRNA,

(D) calculating average indices for each of the distribution of values in (C);
and

(E) calculating dispersion indices for each of the average indices in (D),

wherein the number of tissue specimens in (A) includes a sufficient number of specimens such that the indices correspond to a statistically significant representation of those indices for the population as a whole.

186. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal tissue.

187. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue specimens comprise abnormal tissue.

188. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal and abnormal tissue of the same tissue type, and wherein in the determination of distribution of values and corresponding indices, data from normal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for normal tissue and data from abnormal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for abnormal tissue.

189. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue types comprise skin.

190. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue types comprise liver.

191. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue types comprise kidney.

192. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue types comprise muscle.

193. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue types comprise brain.

194. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue types comprise intestine.

195. (previously presented) The method of claim 185, wherein the tissue types comprise plant tissue.

196. (previously presented) A method for obtaining tissue information representative of a given tissue type, comprising the steps of:

(A) obtaining tissue specimens for a plurality of tissue types from a subset of a population of subjects with shared characteristics,

(B) assaying each of the tissue specimens,

(C) determining for each tissue type from the assaying in (B) a distribution of values for each of location, type and amount of cellular proteins,

(D) calculating average indices for each of the distribution of values in (C);
and

(E) calculating dispersion indices for each of the average indices in (D),

wherein the number of tissue specimens in (A) includes a sufficient number of specimens such that the indices correspond to a statistically significant representation of those indices for the population as a whole.

197. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal tissue.

198. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue specimens comprise abnormal tissue.

199. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal and abnormal tissue of the same tissue type, and wherein in the determination of distribution of values and corresponding indices, data from normal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for normal tissue and data from abnormal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for abnormal tissue.

200. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue types comprise skin.

201. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue types comprise liver.

202. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue types comprise kidney.

203. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue types comprise muscle.

204. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue types comprise brain.

205. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue types comprise intestine.

206. (previously presented) The method of claim 196, wherein the tissue types comprise plant tissue.

207. (previously presented) A method for obtaining tissue information representative of a given tissue type, comprising the steps of:

(A) obtaining tissue specimens for a plurality of tissue types from a subset of a population of subjects with shared characteristics,

(B) assaying each of the tissue specimens,

(C) determining for each tissue type from the assaying in (B) a distribution of values for each of location, type and amount of cellular lipids,

(D) calculating average indices for each of the distribution of values in (C);
and

(E) calculating dispersion indices for each of the average indices in (D),

wherein the number of tissue specimens in (A) includes a sufficient number of specimens such that the indices correspond to a statistically significant representation of those indices for the population as a whole.

208. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal tissue.

209. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue specimens comprise abnormal tissue.

210. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal and abnormal tissue of the same tissue type, and wherein in the determination of distribution of values and corresponding indices, data from normal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for normal tissue and data from abnormal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for abnormal tissue.

211. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue types comprise skin.

212. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue types comprise liver.

213. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue types comprise kidney.

214. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue types comprise muscle.

215. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue types comprise brain.

216. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue types comprise intestine.

217. (previously presented) The method of claim 207, wherein the tissue types comprise plant tissue.

218. (previously presented) A method for obtaining tissue information representative of a given tissue type, comprising the steps of:

- (A) obtaining tissue specimens for a plurality of tissue types from a subset of a population of subjects with shared characteristics,
- (B) assaying each of the tissue specimens,
- (C) determining for each tissue type from the assaying in (B) a distribution of values for each of location, type and amount of cellular ion distributions,
- (D) calculating average indices for each of the distribution of values in (C);
and
- (E) calculating dispersion indices for each of the average indices in (D),

wherein the number of tissue specimens in (A) includes a sufficient number of specimens such that the indices correspond to a statistically significant representation of those indices for the population as a whole.

219. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal tissue.

220. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue specimens comprise abnormal tissue.

221. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal and abnormal tissue of the same tissue type, and wherein in the determination of distribution of values and corresponding indices, data from normal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for normal tissue and data from abnormal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for abnormal tissue.

222. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue types comprise skin.

223. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue types comprise liver.

224. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue types comprise kidney.

225. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue types comprise muscle.

226. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue types comprise brain.

227. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue types comprise intestine.

228. (previously presented) The method of claim 218, wherein the tissue types comprise plant tissue.

229. (previously presented) A method for obtaining tissue information representative of a given tissue type, comprising the steps of:

(A) obtaining tissue specimens for a plurality of tissue types from a subset of a population of subjects with shared characteristics,

(B) analyzing each of the tissue specimens,

(C) determining for each tissue type from the analysis in (B) a distribution of values for modulus of elasticity,

(D) calculating average indices for each of the distribution of values in (C);
and

(E) calculating dispersion indices for each of the average indices in (D),

wherein the number of tissue specimens in (A) includes a sufficient number of specimens such that the indices correspond to a statistically significant representation of those indices for the population as a whole.

230. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal tissue.

231. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue specimens comprise abnormal tissue.

232. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal and abnormal tissue of the same tissue type, and wherein in the determination of distribution of values and corresponding indices, data from normal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for normal tissue and data from abnormal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for abnormal tissue.

233. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue types comprise skin.

234. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue types comprise liver.

235. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue types comprise kidney.

236. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue types comprise muscle.

237. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue types comprise brain.

238. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue types comprise intestine.

239. (previously presented) The method of claim 229, wherein the tissue types comprise plant tissue.

240. (previously presented) A method for obtaining tissue information representative of a given tissue type, comprising the steps of:

(A) obtaining tissue specimens for a plurality of tissue types from a subset of a population of subjects with shared characteristics,

(B) analyzing each of the tissue specimens,

(C) determining for each tissue type from the analysis in (B) a distribution of values for mechanical strength,

(D) calculating average indices for each of the distribution of values in (C);
and

(E) calculating dispersion indices for each of the average indices in (D),

wherein the number of tissue specimens in (A) includes a sufficient number of specimens such that the indices correspond to a statistically significant representation of those indices for the population as a whole.

241. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal tissue.

242. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue specimens comprise abnormal tissue.

243. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue specimens comprise normal and abnormal tissue of the same tissue type, and

wherein in the determination of distribution of values and corresponding indices, data from normal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for normal tissue and data from abnormal tissue is used to determine a distribution of values and corresponding indices for abnormal tissue.

244. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue types comprise skin.

245. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue types comprise liver.

246. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue types comprise kidney.

247. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue types comprise muscle.

248. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue types comprise brain.

249. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue types comprise intestine.

250. (previously presented) The method of claim 240, wherein the tissue types comprise plant tissue.